2. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said air branching device is formed by a fixed guide wall.

3. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said air branching device has a first position and a second position in which it brings about the branching off of air from said cooling air flow, said air branching device being movable between said first and second positions.

4. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with clam 1, wherein said at least one cooling fan is a pusher fan arranged upstream of said heat exchanger.

5. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 4 and further comprising a housing disposed upstream of said heat exchanger, said at least one fan being connected to said heat exchanger by means of said housing.

6. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 1 and further comprising an air guiding housing arranged downstream of said heat exchanger directly adjacent the latter.

7. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 3, wherein said air branching device is realized by adjustable plates, said adjustable plates having a first position permitting air moving through said heat exchanger to pass between them and a second position in which they close against one another to supply air to said duct leading to said fuel cells.

8. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 7, wherein said air guiding housing has a downstream side and said plates are arranged at said downstream side.

9. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 7, wherein said plates are arranged in the manner of a louver window.

10. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 7, wherein said plates are arranged in the manner of an iris diaphragm and have a first state closed against one another in which they define a central opening, said duct leading to said fuel cells having an entry and said entry lying opposite to said central opening.

11. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 7, wherein said plates are arranged in the manner of a roller shutter.

12. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 6, and further comprising an air collecting box, said air collecting box extending over a region of said air guiding housing not covered in the air branching position by said air branching device and being adapted to collect air branched off by said air branching device, said duct leading to said fuel cells having a connection and said air branched off by said air branching device being supplied to said connection.

13. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 12, wherein said air collecting box has a collecting aperture and wherein said air branching device is formed by a roller blind having a closed position in which said roller blind adjoins said air collecting box, but does not close said collecting aperture.

14. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 6, wherein said air guiding housing has an air outlet side, wherein said air branching device is adapted to completely close off said air outlet side and wherein said air guiding housing has a connection for said duct leading to said fuel cells.

15. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 3, wherein a positioning motor is provided, said positioning motor being attached to said air guiding housing for the positioning of said plates.

16. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 1 and further comprising a compressor having a housing and adapted to feed oxygen to said fuel cells in normal operation, wherein said duct leading to said fuel cells extends into said housing of said compressor.

17. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said duct leading to said fuel cells leads directly to said fuel cells.

18. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 6, wherein an air filter is provided in said air collecting box.

19. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 1, wherein an air filter is provided in said duct leading to said fuel cells.

20. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said cooling fan, said heat exchanger and said air branching device form a module.

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21. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 5, said housing connecting said at least one fan to said heat exchanger having a connection for said duct leading to said fuel cells.

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22. (Amended) A fuel cell system in accordance with claim 1 and adapted for said cooling air flow to satisfy at least one further cooling task after passing through said heat exchanger prior to being discharged into an environment of said cooling fan system.

Respectfully submitted,

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